

Applic. No. 10/725,093

Amdt. dated July 26, 2004

Reply to Office action of April 26, 2004

Remarks/Arguments:

Reconsideration of the application is requested.

Claims 1-39 remain in the application. Claims 6, 7, 14, and 22 have been amended.

It is appreciatively noted from item 1 on page 2 of the Office action that claims 1-5, 8-13, 15-21, and 23-29 have been allowed.

In item 3 on page 2 of the above-identified Office action, claims 6, 7, 14, and 22 have been rejected as being indefinite under 35 U.S.C. § 112.

More specifically, the Examiner stated that claims 6 and 7 are indefinite because it is not known what is being collected by the "collecting" step. Claims 6 and 7 have been amended so as to further clarify the collecting step. Therefore, the rejection is believed to have been overcome.

The Examiner stated that claim 14 is indefinite because it depends from claim 13 and has the identical claim limitation as claim 13. Claim 14 has been amended and is now dependent

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on claim 9. Therefore, the rejection of claim 14 has been overcome.

The Examiner stated that claim 22 is indefinite because it depends from indefinite claim 14. Claim 22 has been amended so as to be dependent on claim 13. Therefore, the rejection of claim 22 has been overcome.

It is accordingly believed that the claims meet the requirements of 35 U.S.C. § 112, first and second paragraphs. Should the Examiner find any further objectionable items, counsel would appreciate a telephone call during which the matter may be resolved. The above-noted changes to the claims are provided solely for cosmetic or clarificatory reasons. The changes are not provided for overcoming the prior art nor for any reason related to the statutory requirements for a patent.

It is appreciatively noted from item 4 of the Office action that claims 6, 7, 14, and 22 would be allowable if amended to overcome the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112. As noted above, the claims have been amended so as to overcome the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112. Therefore, claims 6, 7, 14, and 22 are believed to be allowable.

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In item 6 on page 2 of the Office action, the Examiner stated that the response should include the following editorial changes.

The Examiner stated that on page 6, line 7 "hacinf" should be "having". The specification has been amended so as to correct the typographical error.

The Examiner stated that on page 20, line 6 "Foucault current filter" should be "vortex filter". The specification has been amended so as to correct the error.

In view of the foregoing, reconsideration and allowance of claims 6, 7, 14, and 22 are solicited.

Since only allowable claims remain, the early issuance of a Notice of Allowance is solicited.

In the event the Examiner should still find any of the claims to be unpatentable, counsel respectfully requests a telephone call so that, if possible, patentable language can be worked out.

If an extension of time for this paper is required, petition for extension is herewith made.

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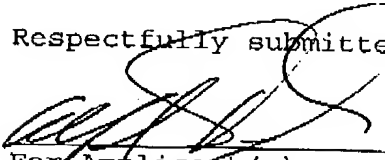
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Please charge any other fees which might be due with respect to Sections 1.16 and 1.17 to the Deposit Account of Lerner & Greenberg P.A., No. 12-1099.

Respectfully submitted,

Alfred K. Dassler
52,794


For Applicant(s)

AKD:cgm

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Lerner and Greenberg, P.A.
Post Office Box 2480
Hollywood, FL 33022-2480
Tel: (954) 925-1100
Fax: (954) 925-1101